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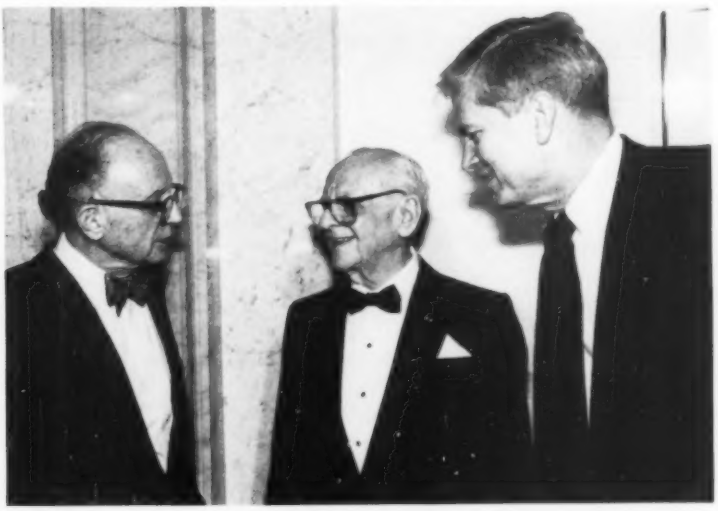
Donation of Armand Hammer Papers Marked by Exhibit at the Library



After presenting his papers, Dr. Hammer (center) speaks with Daniel J. Boorstin, Librarian of Congress Emeritus (left), and Librarian of Congress James H. Billington.

A special Library of Congress exhibit featuring highlights from the archival collection of Armand Hammer has opened to the public on the occasion of the donation of Dr. Hammer's papers to the Library. The exhibition opened in the Great Hall of the Library's Thomas Jefferson Building on January 19 and will run through February 12.

"Dr. Armand Hammer has had a remarkable and diverse career as a creative entrepreneur in the business world, as a collector and philanthropist in the world of the arts, as a statesman and diplomat in the private sector, particularly in his lifelong dialogue with leaders of the USSR," said Librarian of Congress James H. Billington. "He is a champion and benefactor in the causes of better international understanding and in the search for the cure for

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cancer. We are very pleased that a citizen with an exemplary career can be appreciated by future generations through the donation of his papers to the Library of Congress. It is an important contribution to the national memory."

Dr. Hammer, 90, is board chairman of Occidental Petroleum Corporation and is currently serving his third three-year term as chairman of the President's Cancer Panel.

The exhibit at the Library of Congress of Dr. Hammer's papers commemorates a remarkable career that has spanned most of the 20th century and includes contacts with most of the Soviet leadership from Lenin to Gorbachev; all American Presidents since Hoover, including President Bush; and numerous other world leaders, such as Menachem Begin, Anwar Sadat, Margaret Thatcher, and Prince Charles.

In addition to the Lenin letters, correspondence in the Hammer collection exhibit of special interest includes items relating to Dr. Hammer's strong support for Roosevelt's foreign policy on the eve of World War II; his involvement in post-war famine relief; and his efforts to help resolve U.S./USSR tensions regarding detente, the State of Israel, the plight of Jewish refuseniks, the release of journalist Nick Daniloff, and the conflict in Afghanistan. Other papers also reflect Dr. Hammer's support for peace and human rights efforts as well as his work in the battle against cancer.

Dr. Hammer (left) greets Senator Claiborne Pell as Dr. Billington looks on.

Senator Kennedy (left) speaks with National Cancer Institute Surgery Branch Chief Steven A. Rosenberg and Mrs. Rosenberg.

The exhibit also includes a collection of personal letters, dating back as early as 1825, written by prominent 19th- and 20th-century artists such as John Constable, Rembrandt Peale, Winslow Homer, and John Singer Sargent, which are on loan from Knoedler's in New York City, the oldest art gallery in the United States. Dr. Hammer, who is chairman of Knoedler's, is donating the gallery's extensive microfiche collection with replicas of these items to the Library of Congress as part of his papers.

The exhibit also features a number of historic photographs and a gift to Dr. Hammer from Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, replicas of the telephone and lamp that were on Lenin's desk at the Kremlin.

"I'm very pleased that I am able to share my personal papers with the American people, scholars, and future historians," Dr. Hammer said in announcing his donation. "I have been fortunate to have had a long and active life, bringing me into contact with many different people and events. I hope that in the future these papers may contribute to fulfilling my two lifetime dreams of creating a meaningful peace and finding the cure for the dreaded disease known as cancer."

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Bruce Tapper, Editor

Reports from the 54th General Conference of The International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions Sydney, Australia

Aerial view of Sydney with the Opera House in the foreground. (Australian Overseas Information photo)

"Living Together," the theme for the celebrations in 1988 of the 200th anniversary of the European settlement of Australia, also served as the shared theme of the 54th General Conference of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) and the Library Association of Australia's (LAA) 1988 Biennial Conference. Both conferences, scheduled consecutively between August 27 and September 3, convened at the University of New South Wales in Sydney. The Sydney Town Hall and the Sydney Opera House also served as sites for conference ceremonies.

Organized by LAA and IFLA Headquarters in The Hague, the IFLA conference was designated as an official Australian Bicentennial program. The following reports were submitted by Library of Congress staff members who attended.

Official Opening

The opening of the 54th IFLA General Conference was held in the Concert Hall of the Sydney Opera House on August 30. A musical prelude preceded the greetings of Barrie Mitcheson, chair of the Organizing Committee, and his welcome to the attendees from 59 countries. Observing that the cultural diversity of the delegates might be compared to that of Australia itself, he reminded the audience that this year

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IFLA *(Cont. from p. 39)*
the host country was observing its bicentennial, and noted the conference theme: "Living Together: People, Libraries, Technology." Next, the Governor-General of Australia, Ninian Stephan, conveyed a message of welcome by which the conference was officially opened. Alan Bundy, president of the Library Association of Australia (LAA), expressed appreciation to all those who had contributed to the organization of the conference and suggested that this undertaking had comprised a task perhaps as challenging as that faced by Governor Philip when he brought the first settlers to Sydney in 1788. On behalf of LAA and IFLA, Mr. Bundy presented a selection of books to Sir Stephan on a topic of special interest to him, philately.

Hans-Peter Geh, president of IFLA, delivered the first formal speech of the conference. Dr. Geh noted that the conference theme, "Living Together," was particularly apt in view of the increasing interdependence of nations and the increased demand for knowledge throughout the world. He emphasized the importance of striving as an association to span the gap between those who are "information rich" and those who are "information poor." Despite the new media emerging in recent decades, the book remains the predominant vehicle for the communication of ideas, opinions, research, literature, and education and, in the words of Clarence Day, books "live on still young, still fresh, telling men's hearts of the hearts of men centuries dead." If the book is the most important form of communication for national and international harmony, the ability to read must be widely fostered and the act of reading widely promoted. Librarians, together with publishers, must collaborate to "insure the book a proper future," a world "in which books are easily accessible to an increasing number of people and in which the ability to read as well as the will and wish to reap the fruits of reading will be aspired to by all societies in ever stronger measures."

Dr. Geh pointed out that IFLA had sought these goals during the past year, working intensively with other organizations concerned with the promotion of reading and the fight against illiteracy. At a meeting in Nairobi in February, representatives from IFLA, the International Federation for Information and Documentation (FID), and the International Council on Archives (ICA) adopted a statement urging that the "relative weight of Unesco's General Information Programme (GIP) within Unesco's programme and budget . . . be reconsidered so as to enable Unesco to serve with efficiency the Member States" in the context of "the on-going world-wide revolution that affects the field of information in all its aspects (production, processing, storage, and use)." In addition, Dr. Geh and others met with the director general of Unesco to urge personally that the GIP be strengthened.

Another activity in which IFLA has been involved which reflects this year's theme of "Living Together" is the response to the fire in the library of the Leningrad Academy of Science in February–IFLA offered advice and other help in relation to the restoration, conservation, and preservation of damaged materials, and also facilitated the replacement of important foreign titles which were destroyed. Dr. Geh also pointed to the revival of the Alexandrian Library as an important undertaking that provides an opportunity for support from the international library community, noting that, "this library will open its doors widely to the populations of Alexandria and Egypt as well as to scholars from all over the world, especially those who are concerned with archaeology, history, architecture, philology, philosophy, and religions of the Mediterranean area."

Following the presidential address, Thomas Keller of Unesco, Hans Booms of ICA, and Peter Judge of FID addressed the assembly to express greetings from the organizations they represented and to lend emphasis to Dr. Geh's theme of international cooperation in promoting the delivery of library and information services wherever possible.

The official opening concluded with thanks to the speakers expressed by Mr. Mitcheson.

–John D. Byrum, Jr.

Plenary Session

The Plenary Session immediately followed the official opening. Warren Horton, director-general of the National Library of Australia, delivered the opening address titled "IFLA in the Antipodes: A Regional Perspective." In his remarks, Mr. Horton tied together the national and international sub-themes of the Library Association of Australia and IFLA, as well as the Australian Bicentennial theme of "Living Together." He echoed the great importance attached to books as the vehicle of culture in all nations.

Mr. Horton pointed to two new developments planned for Australia in the next few years. The first is a Year of the Reader program to be launched in 1990. The program is designed to enhance literacy and math skills, and will draw heavily on the U.S. experience in its 1987 Year of the Reader. Mr. Horton speculated that an Australian Center for the Book could be a second new initiative that might follow its Year of the Reader.

The director-general expressed his frustration over the failure of a seven-year effort to develop a national information policy for Australia, although the interest in such a policy spurred the libraries of Australia to pursue other efforts for coordinating collection development and

enhancing access to the national collection. Australia's experience in developing cooperative resource-sharing networks has special relevance to overseas visitors. The Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN) was established in 1981 by the National Library and now serves more than 800 libraries across the nation.

Mr. Horton also noted the special efforts of Australia in helping many Third World nations in Asia and in the Pacific. He closed his speech by encouraging IFLA to explore new ways of promoting greater involvement of the librarians of this region, as well as those of South America and Africa, in the core activities of IFLA.

—William H. Robinson

Conference of Directors Of National Libraries

The 15th meeting of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries (CDNL) was held September 4–5, at the National Library of Australia in Canberra. William J. Welsh, the Deputy Librarian of Congress (now retired) and chairman of CDNL, presided over the meeting which included representatives from 29 countries as well as Unesco.

The program began on September 4 with lunch and walking tours of the Tidbinbilla Nature Reserve near Canberra, followed by an evening reception at the National Library where Warren Horton, National Librarian of Australia, and Clyde Holding, Minister of Arts and Territories, welcomed the CDNL delegates to the annual meeting. On September 5, tours of the National Library were conducted by library staff members, and the conference concluded with a reception at Government House hosted by the Governor-General of Australia.

At the business meeting, Hope Clement, of the National Library of Canada and chair of the International MARC Network Advisory Committee (IMNAC), reported on the committee's work during the past year. It was agreed that the committee's membership should be expanded to include a representative from Kenya as a corresponding member. Ms. Clement also reported that the committee will undertake studies to address concerns about the adequacy of the coverage and timeliness of bibliographic data distributed by the various national bibliographic agencies.

Adam Wysocki, chair of the IFLA Programme Management Committee, reported on a number of developments within the core programs for Universal Bibliographic Control/International MARC (UBCIM), Universal Availability of Publications (UAP), Preservation and Conservation (PAC), and Universal Dataflow and Telecommunication (UDT). In characterizing the past year as a very productive one, Mr. Wysocki expressed his appreciation to CDNL and the national libraries for their contributions and ongoing support to these programs. Turning to the fifth core program, Advancement of Librarianship in the Third World (ALP), it was recognized that an improved awareness of the importance of this effort to international librarianship was needed. Suggestions were offered regarding an intergovernmental conference or seminar to launch the ALP, either at the regional or international level. It was further noted that the 1990 IFLA conference in Sweden could provide an opportunity for launching the ALP program at the international level in conjunction with regionally sponsored conferences such as for Asia/Oceania, Africa, and Central and Latin America. The discussion concluded with the observation that the important concern now is to get the ALP program organized and functioning—and if these 1990 conferences can help achieve that goal then a structure will be in place to identify not only the needs of the developing countries in this area but also the mechanism and resources for dealing with these requirements.

Mr. Lohner, of Unesco, and Mr. Wysocki reported that the *Guidelines for National Libraries* has been published by Unesco, with translations in French, Spanish, and Arabic. A second paper undertaken by Maurice Line as a companion publication to *Guidelines* will address national libraries and information needs. A draft report is scheduled to be available for review by the CDNL membership later in the year.

As a follow-up to discussions in previous years on CDNL and developing countries, it was proposed that CDNL's ongoing emphasis in this area could be the encouragement of bilateral agreements between specific national libraries which support activities that help promote the advancement of librarianship in the Third World. Brief reports on such endeavors were given, including projects involving the Library of Congress and the National Library of India, the National Library of Australia and the National Diet Library, the National Libraries of China and New Zealand, the British Library and library services in Pakistan, the National Library of Sweden and its activities with libraries in Nicaragua, and the programs of the National Library of Malaysia designed to assist individuals from the least-developed countries in pursuing appropriate professional advancement.

Recognizing that a number of major libraries around the world have had to deal with significant disasters during recent years (such as the fires at the National Library of Australia and the Los Angeles Public Library), Mr. Welsh reviewed briefly the activities to date in dealing with the fire at the Library of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR in Leningrad—Biblioteka Akademii Nauk S.S.S.R., Leningrad (BAN). With the support of Unesco, IFLA,

and BAN, the Library of Congress has agreed to coordinate some international assistance in dealing with the problems of how to replace items lost in the fire. Acknowledging that this is an opportunity for CDNL to provide some much-needed assistance during a time of need, it was agreed that each national library will try to provide copies of documents that need to be replaced in the BAN Collection. Working from the "want list" of needed titles that was distributed at the meeting, the CDNL libraries should determine the availability of publications originating in their respective countries. Once availability has been determined (whether this be duplicate copies, reprints, photocopies, or microform versions of the originals), CDNL directors should notify IFLA via the PAC Core Programme of the results of their searches. Upon receipt of this holdings information, PAC will convey the data to the Library of Congress; the Library of Congress, in turn, will organize the information and be in communication with the CDNL directors regarding subsequent strategies and actions.

Jan Lyall, National Library of Australia, gave a presentation, "Disaster Planning and Recovery Techniques," which reflected in part the experiences of the National Library in dealing with its fire and the aftermath. Addressing the management aspects of disaster planning, Dr. Lyall focused on a number of concerns that need to be reflected in a disaster plan. These included the need to develop procedures for all three phases of a disaster: before (prevention and preparedness), during (response to a disaster), and after (recovery from a disaster). Describing the basic elements of preparing a plan, she cited the need for conducting appropriate risk analyses, making recommendations to prevent or prepare for high-risk elements, and allocating responsibilities for dealing with risk elements. She further stressed that a disaster plan should always address failure of the plan to function the way it should during a disaster—including the reasons for the failure, the results of the failure, and how to avoid failure—as well as strategies for measuring the success of the plan.

Peter Scott, National Librarian of New Zealand, spoke of the growing pressure on national libraries to raise more revenue in light of changes in the allocation and use of their resources. With this in mind he described the current budgeting model at the National Library of New Zealand which illustrates the growing pressures on national libraries to operate more on a cost-recovery basis. During the presentation and discussion a number of issues were identified which need to be dealt with in coping with this situation: the definition of "core functions" that should not be expected to generate revenue; how to demonstrate cost recovery, and the disposition of earned receipts under a cost-recovery operation; the concept of government subsidy as it might or might not be applied to national library operations (especially with respect to other government agencies); the relationship of zero-based budgeting to cost recovery and the need to earn revenue; and how national libraries can or should achieve greater control over their budgets.

In view of the considerable interest in this subject on the part of both the Section on National Libraries and CDNL, two possible avenues for action were identified. The section could explore the idea of a workshop during the IFLA conference in Stockholm which would address many of these issues. And CDNL could consider undertaking a survey to ascertain what policies and practices are currently in place in the national libraries. Recognizing the extensive experience which both the British Library and the National Library of New Zealand have had in this area, Mr. Cooper and Mr. Scott were nominated as candidates to look into the possibility of such a survey.

Concerning recent developments in national libraries, Kiyohide Ibusuki of Japan reported on the Science and Technology Materials Division and other new developments at the National Diet Library in Tokyo. And Shao Wenjie, China, presented a 15-minute videotape about the new library building and other developments at the National Library of China in Beijing. Don Wijasuriya of Malaysia reported that construction of a new library building for the National Library of Malaysia began in June and is expected to be completed by the end of 1990.

Noting his forthcoming retirement, Mr. Welsh announced the need to elect a new chair. In anticipation of having an Executive Committee or Steering Committee in the future, and in order to provide necessary backup to the office of the chair, it was agreed that two vice chairs should also be added to the CDNL roster of officers. With that understanding, Marianne Scott of Canada was elected chair, and Don Wijasuriya of Malaysia and Ben Rugaas of Norway were elected vice chairs.

The members expressed appreciation to Mr. Welsh for the new dimension he brought to CDNL in advocating the needs of developing countries and thanked him for his energetic leadership and for the spirit of international cooperation that he fostered within CDNL.

The 1989 meeting will be convened in Paris at the invitation of the Bibliothèque nationale.

—Mary S. Price

International MARC Network Committee

The International MARC Network Committee (IMNC), a committee of the Conference of Directors of

National Libraries (CDNL), met on August 30. Hope Clement, National Library of Canada, chair, opened the meeting by greeting all participants and asked if there were any changes to the agenda. Henriette D. Avram, Library of Congress, asked that one item, a proposal to explore simplification of the International Bibliographic Description, be added to the agenda item concerning the bibliographic agencies cataloging study.

The minutes of the spring meeting held in Paris, April 8, 1988, were approved as written.

Representatives of each of the IMNC members present gave updates on their libraries' CD-ROM projects. These included reports from the British Library; the Library of Congress; the National Diet Library; the Bibliothèque nationale, Paris; and the National Library of Australia. A status report on the implementation of the UNIMARC format was also presented by each representative. Discussion included information on the projects of several developed and developing countries that are presently using UNIMARC, such as Portugal, Malaysia, South Africa, and Indonesia.

The principal item on the agenda was a project proposed during the spring meeting to study the problems of currency of cataloging at national libraries. An outline of a study had been prepared by Hope Clement and, after some discussion, Ms. Clement asked that all comments be sent to her by September 30, 1988. A survey will be conducted and the results documented prior to the next meeting of the IMNC. It is hoped that common problems can be isolated and solutions recommended.

The date for the next meeting, in conjunction with the spring meetings of IFLA steering bodies, was established as April 6 and 7, 1989.

—Henriette D. Avram

Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications Advisory Committee

The Advisory Committee to the Universal Dataflow and Telecommunications (UDT) Core Programme met on August 30. A proposal was discussed and adopted for the core program that will be the first step in a demonstration project to use the Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) protocols in support of interlibrary loan messaging between systems. The proposal is for a feasibility study for a pilot between the National Library of Canada (NLC) and the British Library Document Supply Center (BL/DSC). The feasibility study will treat service objectives, protocol choices, modes of communication, application and telecommunication profiles, and testing requirements. The study is being funded on IFLA's behalf by NLC and BL/DSC. Following the completion of the study in December, a decision will be made concerning funding and implementation of the pilot.

—Sally H. McCallum

UNIMARC Workshop

A half-day Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM) Programme Workshop on the use and implementation of the UNIMARC (the international standard for machine-readable cataloging) bibliographic data exchange format was held on August 31, chaired by Sally McCallum, Library of Congress. After introductory information on UNIMARC development and maintenance presented by Winston Roberts, UBCIM program officer, Mrs. McCallum and Christine Bossmeyer of the Deutsche Bibliothek, Federal Republic of Germany, presented a tutorial on the format. The tutorial covered basics, including structure and block organization, and special topics, such as linking techniques and character sets.

The tutorial was followed by papers on UNIMARC implementations. Edward Lim, University of Malaysia, described the use of UNIMARC on the MINISIS system at his institution. MINISIS is a system maintained and distributed by the International Development Research Centre (IDRC), a Canadian agency. IFLA funded a contract to modify the MINISIS system to make it able to accept and produce UNIMARC records. Françoise Finelli discussed the Bibliothèque nationale's use of a UNIMARC-based format for distribution of data to French libraries. UNIMARC is being used with only two significant alterations involving the linking-entry fields and references.

Maria Louisa Cabral of the Biblioteca Nacional, Portugal, presented a paper on the work in automation that her library has done over the last two years. In this brief span of time, the Biblioteca Nacional has selected and installed the GEAC automated system. In order to have ready a database of records for the new system, a UNIMARC data definition for the CDS/ISIS system was developed. CDS/ISIS is a microcomputer-based system that supports the creation of records on a microcomputer floppy disk, which can then be uploaded to a larger system. CDS/ISIS was developed by Unesco.

—Sally H. McCallum

Division of General Research Libraries

Section on National Libraries

The Standing Committee of the Section on National Libraries met on August 29 and September 3. The minutes of the 1987 Brighton meetings were approved.

The following announcements were made by Maurice Line, meeting

chair. There has been an agreement between the British Library and a commercial publisher to publish a new journal, titled *Alexandria*. Along with other items of interest, the publication would include activities of national libraries and it was the intent to feature one national library per issue. The journal would serve as the vehicle for publication of an annual review of developments in national libraries.

The National Library of Canada has prepared a questionnaire to determine the experiences of national libraries in legal deposit. The results of the questionnaire will provide information for the revision of guidelines for legal deposit.

The response of national libraries to the questionnaire concerning their involvement in research was not high. The report should be of interest, however, and a draft will be distributed to members of the Standing Committee.

The program for the Paris 1989 IFLA General Conference was discussed and Henriette Avram was asked to give a paper on the role of a national library in bibliographic control. Maurice Line will report on the results of his Unesco study on national library and information needs and the role of national libraries.

Because of the many changes in the leadership of national libraries, it seemed appropriate to have a program on the management of change in national libraries and a request for participation will be made to the Directors of the Bibliothèque nationale (Paris), the British Library, the Library of Congress, and the National Library of Hungary.

Topics for meetings beyond 1989 were also discussed and included such items as national libraries in the Third World, national collection building, technology applied to reference sources, cooperation between national libraries, relationships between national libraries and national archives, and revenue raising and commercial activities in national libraries.

All agreed that the section meeting and the joint meeting held with the round table on audiovisual material were successful and well attended. The chair requested new ideas for the medium-term program, 1991-1995. There will be a request for such ideas in the next issue of the section newsletter.

—Henriette D. Avram

Section of Parliamentary Libraries

The Section of Parliamentary Libraries met for an intensive workshop session at the Parliament House of New South Wales in Sydney. Attending the meetings of the section were 58 representatives from 26 nations—ranging from Australia, the U.S., the U.K., the Federal Republic of Germany, and Japan to the Cook Islands, Cameroon, Kiribati, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu. A tour of the New South Wales Parliament House and the library was an integral part of the program.

The theme of the section's program meeting was "Cooperation Between Legislative Library and Information Services." Connie Wilson, University of New South Wales, Australia, presented the opening paper, which outlined basic principles for interlibrary cooperation. The basic purpose of libraries is to bring library materials to users. Parliamentary libraries have much in common; one such common requirement is the need for sharing of resources since no library can be self-sufficient today, regardless of size, because of the information explosion and the high cost of materials. Before resources can be shared, however, libraries must better understand and more effectively meet the needs of their own users.

Ms. Wilson noted that while considering sharing, libraries should start with ways to facilitate exploitation of existing resources. This implies a sharpening of guides to resources, such as union lists and catalogs. Libraries would then be in a better position to enter into lending and sharing arrangements.

There are many barriers to cooperation which must be overcome. Some are psychological (lack of willingness or tradition of cooperation), some stem from inadequate resources, and some are practical (such as distance or language barriers). Ms. Wilson concluded that through cooperation and resource sharing, parliamentary libraries try to find the optimum cost for providing their unique set of services to clients.

Following Ms. Wilson's paper, a series of case studies focusing on interlibrary cooperation were presented, including examples from Canada, the U.S., the European Economic Community, Nordic countries, and the Southwest Pacific. Several common themes emerged from the separate presentations. Informal cooperation and personal contact are two of the most important forms of interlibrary cooperation. Newsletters and meetings among closely related libraries are another useful device. Shared cataloging is possible when standards are similar and there are no language barriers. Exchange of publications is another device used effectively in Canada, among other nations. "Info Net" is an online service of shared documents among states in the U.S., sponsored by the National Conference of State Legislatures. Finally, informal staff exchanges between parliamentary libraries have strengthened personal ties and enhanced interlibrary cooperation.

In the meeting's discussion period several important issues surfaced. The need to have effective standards becomes more important when planning to share resources. Moreover, there is great hope that technology (such as telecommunication and optical disk) will make

sharing faster and more effective. Language barriers and inadequate standards may limit the returns of technology. There was general agreement that access to information was more important than access to documentation. It is far more useful to call a knowledgeable colleague in another country for a definitive statement on its legal code than to try to pore over a copy of what may be an outdated volume of that code written in a foreign tongue.

Following the IFLA conference, members of the section traveled to Canberra to join in the Conference of the Association of Parliamentary Librarians of Australasia (APLA) on September 5–7. A tour of the beautiful new Parliament House and Parliamentary Library was a highlight of the meeting. The program provided a time to share common concerns, problems, and solutions. Some of the topics discussed included ways to assess the information needs of legislative bodies, current awareness services, collection building in a time of scarcity, and user education and orientation.

—William H. Robinson

Division of Bibliographic Control

Section on Bibliography

The program meeting of the Section on Bibliography, held on September 1 under the chairmanship of Barry Bloomfield of the British Library, reviewed various programs throughout the world for retrospective conversion of bibliographic databases.

Peter Haddad, National Library of Australia, summarized some of the retrospective conversion efforts throughout Australia. He noted that despite difficult financial constraints, most libraries see conversion as essential for the operation of automated circulation and interlibrary loan systems, and for online public access catalogs.

Conversion generally follows one or more of the following techniques: (1) in-house operations; (2) use of records from a network or bibliographic utility; and (3) use of the services of a commercial bureau. The first technique may produce a higher quality record, but may be more costly than the others. A recent survey of 19 university libraries showed that nearly 40 percent of their holdings were in machine-readable form.

N.P. Igumnova, All-Union State Library of Foreign Literature, USSR, surveyed retrospective conversion activities in Bulgaria, the German Democratic Republic, Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, and the USSR. At the regional level, such activities are typically coordinated under the auspices of the ministries of culture by a special Working Group on Library Technology. She noted that Bulgaria is undertaking a project to convert records for books, periodicals, and articles back to 1806. The records will follow the International Standard Bibliographic Description (ISBD) and the UNIMARC format.

The Hungarian Central Technical Library is now carrying out a retrospective conversion of its union catalog of foreign technical journals and books. The National Library of Poland in Warsaw is converting its catalog of serials, including 45,000 Polish and foreign titles published since 1800. The format used is based on UNIMARC. The Deutsche Bucherei, Leipzig, participates in one of several groups which are producing databases of retrospective titles. Automation is used to produce such publications as the *German Books Index* (1981–1985).

Ms. Igumnova reported that work has now begun on the retrospective conversion of records in the Slovak national bibliography. In addition, the preparation of a Czech national book bibliography began in 1983, the database of which will be used experimentally for online retrieval. In the USSR, the possibility of the operation of an automated library information system for the libraries of the USSR Ministry of Culture is under investigation. This program is being coordinated by the V.I. Lenin State Library, which has the country's largest collections of domestic and foreign literature. Some of the data files to be utilized include the file of foreign fiction and literature of the humanities from the All-Union State Library of Foreign Literature and various regional machine-readable catalogs from the state libraries.

Ms. Igumnova concluded by noting that these large retrospective conversion efforts are only possible because of the existence of large computer systems along with micro and personal computers.

The final three program speakers discussed problems of retrospective conversion in Western national and research libraries. Barry Bloomfield presented a paper by Pat Oddy, British Library Bibliographic Services, on a project to convert to machine-readable form the 360 volumes of the *British Library General Catalogue of Printed Books to 1975* (BLC). The project, which began in 1987 and is scheduled for completion in 1991, is different from most other retrospective conversion projects because (1) the collection is heavily weighted toward older materials, so that little can be gained from trying to match and download existing records from other databases, and (2) the conversion is from printed volumes rather than a card catalog. The current concept of a unit record, as exemplified by a catalog card with tracings or a MARC record, is absent from the printed BLC. Headings, subheadings, and cross references printed on different pages or in different volumes must be brought together with the bibliographic description of an item to produce unit records which are coded to conform broadly with the UKMARC exchange record format.

Françoise Bourdon, Bibliothèque nationale, France, presented a paper by Annick Bernard of the Bibliothèque nationale on integrating the Catalogue général des livres imprimés 1970–1979 into the large bibliographic database envisioned by the library's automation plan, the Bibliothèque nationale–Organisation de la production automatisée du livre et de l'écrit database (BN-OPALE). The Catalogue général 1970–1979, consisting of one million cards corresponding to 450,000 works, was organized so that it could be reproduced by photographing the cards, as had been done for the 1960–1969 catalog. The cards were arranged in alphabetical order for each entry in a record and the headings were not repeated with the main entry. When it was decided that the cards should be keyboarded rather than photographed, a service agency was engaged to input the card file, to link added entries to the main entries in order to produce unit records, to convert the records to INTERMARC format, and thus to provide an editing file in which the Bibliothèque nationale staff could make necessary corrections. From that file a COM microfiche catalog will be published in late 1988 or early 1989, and the records will be added to the BN-OPALE database.

Xavier Agenjo, National Library, Spain, reported that although retrospective conversion is not a top priority in Spanish research libraries because many have not yet automated their cataloging of current materials, nevertheless, several retrospective conversion projects are beginning. The Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Cientìficas, a government organization that links public research centers, has plans for a section dedicated to retrospective conversion. The National Library in Madrid will begin retrospective conversion in 1989, starting with the tapes used to publish *Bibliografía Española* since 1969, then adding local data. The Spanish Union Catalog of Serials is using International Serials Data System (ISDS) tapes and adding local data. The Union Catalog of Spanish Heritage has been developing a basic MARC catalog of Spanish books published before 1958 (when Spanish copyright deposit began), manuscripts, prints, and other special materials. The basic catalog is sent to regional cataloging centers and research libraries with the aim of adding local data to existing records and obtaining records for additional items.

–Lucia J. Rather and
Julianne Beall

Standing Committee On Cataloguing

The Standing Committee on Cataloguing met in two sessions, August 29 and September 3, under the chairmanship of Tom Delsey, National Library of Canada.

Reports included information concerning progress on International Bibliographic Standard Descriptions (ISBDs) which are in the process of revision or creation. John Byrum of the Library of Congress and chair of the ISBD Review Committee, announced that preparation of a new ISBD for Computer Files ISBD(CF) was near completion as a result of a meeting held in London under the sponsorship of Unesco last March, when the disposition of suggestions resulting from world-wide review of the earlier draft was undertaken. He indicated that ISBD(CF) was to be forwarded to the review committee by the end of September and to the Standing Committee for balloting by the end of 1988, with publication projected for the spring of 1989.

Mr. Byrum related that the working group responsible for the proposed revision of the ISBD for Printed Music ISBD(PM) would soon consider comments on the draft circulated recently for worldwide review and that a revised ISBD for Rare Books ISBD(A) had been distributed in April for study by appropriate persons.

Mr. Byrum also stated that the review committee would be asked to begin work on the preparation of a revised ISBD(G), the general framework which ties together the material specific ISBDs, as a conclusion to the project begun in the early 1980s to update and harmonize the several ISBDs that were published during the 1970s.

The standing committee agreed that further work on the ISBD program should not be necessary thereafter, at least for the near term. Although discussion left open the possibility of a future project to define a subset of prescribed data elements and punctuation conventions to establish those appropriate for use by bibliographic agencies which desire to create less elaborate bibliographic descriptions than those stipulated in the current versions of the ISBDs.

Mr. Delsey reported that the *Guidelines for Component Parts*, which he drafted and which the Standing Committee approved last year, had been published in June. This document is intended to facilitate standardization of bibliographic descriptions of articles and chapters within larger works, such as monographs and serials; as such it should prove of particular interest to the abstracting and indexing community. It was agreed that availability of this publication should be made known through a contribution to the professional literature to explain the origins and functions of the guidelines to potential users.

Mr. Delsey also reported that he had submitted an article on authority control, another matter of interest to the Standing Committee, for publication in the winter issue of *Cataloging and Classification Quarterly*. In this regard, it was stated that the proposed UNIMARC authorities format had been released for worldwide review; a meeting of experts will consider suggested amendments,

and publication of the format is expected in the summer of 1989.

The committee considered a proposal submitted by Nancy John, University of Illinois-Chicago, United States, documenting procedures by which such materials as draft standards are distributed by the Universal Bibliographic Control and International MARC (UBCIM) Office which serves as the group's secretariat. Discussion also covered publication of finished works including the ISBDs and produced a number of suggested amendments to the proposal. As a result, the UBCIM Office was asked to prepare a revised version of the distribution procedures.

Looking to future activities, the committee agreed that it will sponsor a panel discussion on the economic aspects of bibliograhic control at the IFLA conference in Paris, and a program on bibliographic standards for online public access catalogs in Stockholm in 1990. Cataloging as a profession and education for catalogers might provide the topic of a program for the IFLA conference to be held in Moscow in 1991. As another undertaking, Geneviève Boisard of the Bibliothèque nationale, France, agreed to oversee preparation of an issues paper on corporate authorship for the committee to discuss next year. As a follow-up to earlier work culminating in the publication of *Guidelines for Authority and Reference Entries*, Mr. Delsey also will determine the extent to which standards for series authorities and for uniform-title authority records are progressing. These investigations had been delegated to other groups and need to be completed in order to provide guidance for preparation of all kinds of authorities records. This work has become even more timely now that the Section on Classification and Indexing has decided to compile an authorities standard for subject terminology.

—John D. Byrum, Jr.

Section on Classification And Indexing

The program meeting of the Section on Classification and Indexing was held on September 1 under the chairmanship of Robert Holley, Wayne State University, United States.

Elaine Hall, State Library of New South Wales, Australia, gave a talk titled, "Australian Directions in Subject Access." She noted that most Australian libraries use Library of Congress Subject Headings (LCSH). To help in the application of LCSH, in 1985 she developed the *ABN Subject Cataloging Manual* to be used by libraries participating in the Australian Bibliographic Network. In order to deal with inevitable problems in using an American thesaurus in Australia, a cooperative arrangement has been worked out between the National Library of Australia (NLA) and the Library of Congress Subject Cataloging Division. Under this program, NLA proposes unique Australian terms, particularly animal and plant names, for inclusion in LCSH. This has not, however, solved the problem of those cases in which Australia and the United States use variant terminology, for example, "longshoremen" instead of "wharflabourers."

Ms. Hall suggested that more radical solutions are needed in the future to supply adequate subject access in Australian libraries. She suggested three paths: (1) more efficient use of computerized techniques; (2) increase in the number of library staff assigned to help patrons locate appropriate material; and (3) reevaluation of the role of the catalog, taking into consideration the possibilities of adding uncontrolled subject terms. Ms. Hall concluded by quoting Samuel Johnson, who in 1775 wrote, "Knowledge is of two kinds. We know a subject ourselves, or we know where we can find information about it." She suggested that "the best direction that could be taken with subject access in Australia would be one that would result in our confidently being able to add to this statement and announce to our clients, 'And this library not only has information on the subjects you are interested in but also provides ready access to that information.' "

The second paper was delivered by Nancy Williamson, University of Toronto, Canada. Dr. Williamson reported on her research into the Library of Congress classification system, work endorsed by the IFLA Standing Committee on Classification and Indexing and carried out in conjunction with the Library of Congress. She noted that in 1987 the Library of Congress had taken the first steps towards automation of the Library of Congress classification with its decision to develop a MARC format for classification. Such a format should provide the basis for a future automated system which will allow the following capabilities: (1) online input and update; (2) online classification and shelflisting; (3) production of the LC classification and schedules in a variety of formats (such as paper, magnetic tape, and CD-ROM); and (4) online subject retrieval.

As part of the underlying research needed to develop a MARC format, Dr. Williamson agreed to undertake a basic statistical profile of the classification schedules as they now exist. This work is essential for the many decisions on how to handle caption subdivisions, tables, and many other complex features of the schedules. Dr. Williamson's study is now more than half completed. She is sampling 100 pages from each of the 41 volumes of the schedule. Computer programs have been written to aid in the analysis of the data.

Concurrently, Library of Congress staff members have begun work on a preliminary version of the MARC format. This work has been carried out interactively with Dr. Williamson, who has reported by telephone to the Library of Congress whenever

her research revealed unexpected problems to be handled by an automated system. The Library of Congress has also decided to try to develop the format in a generalized way with the hope that it can be used not only for the Library of Congress classification, but for the Dewey Decimal system and possibly other classifications as well. The preliminary format will be discussed in January at the midwinter meeting of the American Library Association.

—Lucia J. Rather

Standing Committee on Classification and Indexing

The Standing Committee met August 29 and September 3 with Robert Holley of Wayne State University, United States, presiding. The committee discussed the terms of reference of the Working Group on Guidelines for Subject Authority Files: (1) to formulate guidelines for subject authority records and for their interrelationships within subject authority files; (2) to evaluate the suitability of the UNIMARC authorities format for subject authority records; (3) to consider possible relationships between subject authority records and classification; and (4) to publicize the guidelines and to identify additional areas for research.

The first task will be to augment an earlier IFLA publication that explicitly excluded subject authorities, *Guidelines for Authority and Reference Entries* (London: IFLA International Programme for UBC, 1984). The Standing Committee discussed a preliminary paper compiled by Barbara Kelm and Walther Traiser, both of the Deutsche Bibliothek, Federal Republic of Germany. Ms. Kelm will chair the working group.

Nancy J. Williamson, University of Toronto, Canada, reported on her efforts to learn more about the current status of classification in databases, to determine the possibilities for greater use of classification in databases, and to develop a scenario for further research. Often classification is ignored by database producers and users. Thesauri are the most important database tools now widely used that involve hierarchical structure. A random sample of 140 thesauri revealed that most are available only in printed form. A small study by questionnaire of how intermediaries use thesauri revealed that they use thesauri much more for some subjects than for others. A program of small projects is needed to learn what kinds of structures are provided by thesauri, how thesauri are used, how hierarchical structures can best be displayed online, and how classification can be used in expert systems.

At the 1989 IFLA conference in Paris the standing committee plans to present a program which will include a paper on subject access in France and sponsor an all-day workshop on the 20th edition of the *Dewey Decimal Classification*.

—Julianne Beall

Division of Management And Technology

Section on Conservation

The Conservation Section of the Division of Management and Technology met on Thursday, September 1. Janine Schmidt, State Library of New South Wales; Thea Exley, Australian Archives; and Jan Lyall, National Library of Australia, reported on the progress of the preservation activities in Australia. A. L. Kapoor, University of Delhi Library, described proposals and plans for the preservation of library materials in India. David W. Clements, British Library, and Jean-Marie Arnoult, Bibliothèque nationale outlined the progress of preservation planning in Europe.

Ms. Lyall reported on the National Conservation Committee of the Australian Libraries and Information Council (ALIC), which was established in 1986 to implement the objectives of ALIC's initial conservation thrust of 1981 and its 1986 Action Plan. Although many of the goals of the Action Plan's short and long term strategies were deemed not achievable with the resources at hand, the plans have been modified rather than abandoned and actual progress has occurred in several areas: a draft of a standard for permanent paper is circulating; work continues on drafting a microfilm standard; awareness of the importance of permanent paper has risen; support of preservation activities in university libraries has increased; and several institutions have begun offering preservation training programs.

Ms. Schmidt spoke on the future of preservation in Australia, a key issue at the Australian Library Summit held later, in October 1988. The establishment of a national preservation office and the adoption of a policy on coordinated projects were the major components of the discussion paper that was prepared for the summit. Other issues for discussion included the development of a network for filming, plans for off-site storage, and public awareness of the preservation crisis.

Mr. Kapoor described a survey of the facilities available for conservation in India. Although the Indian government has begun providing institutions of national importance with some financial assistance for preservation—and agencies like the University Grants Commission and the Indian Council of Historical Research are funding research projects aimed at locating private collections that may need preservation—these activities have proceeded in an uncoordinated manner. Determining the extent of facilities available for conservation was deemed an essential task before launching a preservation movement at the national level. The survey was sent to institutions founded before 1950 and

having collections of more than 100,000 items. The results led him to conclude that despite the best efforts and good intentions of Indian librarians and the Indian government, the scale of the preservation problem in India is so vast that massive international technical assistance will be necessary.

Mr. Clements reviewed the progress in preservation planning of 15 European countries based on papers presented at the seminar hosted this past May in Leipzig by the IFLA National Committee of the German Democratic Republic and the Deutsche Bucherei in cooperation with the IFLA Standing Committee of the Conservation Section.

Planning for national preservation programs has been initiated in Austria, Czechoslovakia, the German Democratic Republic, and Hungary. Microfilming continues to grow in importance in Austria, Czechoslovakia, Denmark, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Hungary, Italy, Luxembourg, Portugal, Sweden, the U.K., and the USSR. In addition, France and the U.K. have microfilm registers and the USSR is planning to establish a central microfilming facility. Both Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union emphasized the necessity of protective measures to extend the life of their collections and planned to improve storage facilities.

France, Sweden, and the USSR all declared mass deacidification a priority task while the German Democratic Republic, the U.K., and Switzerland reported progress on mass treatment methods other than deacidification. Particular interest in the promotion of the use of acid-free paper was expressed by the Federal Republic of Germany, Switzerland, and the U.K. —Merrily Smith

Section on Information Technology

The program meeting of the Section on Information Technology focused on three aspects of Open Systems Interconnection (OSI), the effort to achieve connectivity between computer-based equipment from different manufacturers through the adoption of standardized communications protocols, under way for the last decade by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO). The first paper, by Neil McLean, Polytechnic of Central London, United Kingdom, stressed the importance of the reevaluation of the role of the library at the institutional level in order to take advantage of both the internal system integration OSI promises and the external system access it offers. At the workstation level, there will be great potential for new applications. Thus the library's role in managing such information services in the open systems environment needs clear definition.

The second paper, by Michael Malinconico of the Pratt Institute, United States, discussed the concept of distributed applications in an OSI environment. Integrated systems, which libraries are seeking so that acquisitions, cataloging references, and other subsystems can interact, may be viewed as monolithic (a single common computing and software environment for different functions) or distributed (interconnected computing devices, each of which may be dedicated to a specific function or group of functions). The first locks a library into specific systems and manufacturers while the latter allows libraries to take advantage of different systems that best fit particular requirements. The further development and refinement of the OSI and related standards will be the key to usable distributed, integrated systems.

The final paper on the program, "OSI in Australia: Potential, Planning, Progress," was presented by Rona Wade of Clann Limited, Australia. In the last ten years there has been rapid expansion of automation in Australia, including automation of individual libraries, use of the Australian Bibliographic Network for cataloging, and use of smaller shared networks. The decentralized environment has piqued interest in OSI as the key to linking these systems. The use of OSI to assist in the sharing of cataloging, interlibrary loans, and acquisitions is being discussed as an approach to sharing nationally, and for the possibilities it offers to the Asia/Pacific region and the rest of the world.

—Sally H. McCallum

Standing Committee On Information Technology

The Standing Committee of the Section on Information Technology met twice during the conference. It was announced that the proceedings of the 1987 pre-conference seminar titled, "Open Systems Interconnection," have now been published (*Open Systems Interconnection: The Communications Technology of the 1980s*. Munich, K.G. Saur, 1988 [IFLA Publications 44]).

The section project adopted at the last meeting has been completed and a paper, "Using CD-ROM as a Public Access Catalogue" (Ayerkoyd, Brimage, Royce; British Library Research Paper 14), has been issued to Standing Committee members. The section discussed the study, which was well conducted by staff at the British Library. Additional information on the production and update aspects of CD-ROMs seemed desirable to complement the study.

The section program for the next IFLA meeting was discussed; "New Standards in Office Automation and Electronic Publishing" will be the topic. This program will cover the Office Document Architecture (ODA) and Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML) family of standards in addition to the Office Document Interchange (ODIF) and the Electronic Document Inter-

change (EDIFact) standards, and will focus on the interrelationship of these standards and their importance to the library community.

The possibility of a Division of Management and Technology program at a future IFLA conference was addressed. A proposal has been made that each section present a paper on the value that the sectional activity adds to information as it passes from producer to user.

Developments concerning UNIMARC, the IFLA bibliographic data interchange format, were discussed. A workshop on the structure and use of UNIMARC was presented during the conference. A draft UNIMARC authorities format has received worldwide review, and comments were due at the end of October. Following resolution of comments by the steering committee responsible for the draft, chaired by Christine Bossmeyer of the Deutsche Bibliothek, Federal Republic of Germany, this companion format to UNIMARC will be published by IFLA. —Sally H. McCallum

Division of Collections And Services

Section on Acquisition and Exchange

The Section on Acquisition and Exchange sponsored the presentation of three papers at its open session on September 1. The first paper, presented by section chair Joachim-Felix Leonhard, Tübingen University Library, Federal Republic of Germany, was titled, "Decentralizing National Acquisition Policies: Illustrations from European Countries." In his paper Dr. Leonhard examined various methods and practices by which European countries have developed national policies for distributing collections responsibilities among major libraries, ranging from decentralization such as that of the program developed by the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft for the Federal Republic of Germany, to various applications which do and do not make use of the approach of the conspectus concept.

In his paper titled, "Differential Pricing in the International Book Market," Ulrich Montag, Bavarian State Library, Federal Republic of Germany (and section secretary), took up the growing problem which research libraries face as the pricing policies of important international publishers increase publishers' profits at libraries' expense. Dr. Montag urged libraries to enter into concerted negotiations with publishers and publishers' associations to alleviate this critical problem without open confrontation.

The final paper was presented by Prue Watters, International Development Programme of Australian Universities and Colleges, Canberra. Titled "ACPAD—an Australian Contribution to Library Development in Southeast Asia and the Pacific," the paper described the activities of the Australian Centre for Publications Acquired for Development (ACPAD). Established six years ago, the center collects surplus books and journals available in Australia for distribution to institutions in Southeast Asia and the Pacific. ACPAD has developed an effective distribution network serving some 50 institutions in the area and encompassing a volume of some 75,000 items annually —Peter H. Bridge

Standing Committee on Acquisition and Exchange

The Standing Committee on Acquisition and Exchange met in two sessions on August 29 and September 3, chaired by Joachim-Felix Leonhard, Tübingen University Library, Federal Republic of Germany. During its initial meeting, the committee reviewed and adopted the proposed agenda for discussion and approved the minutes of last year's meeting at Brighton.

The remainder of the meeting was devoted to the committee's financial report and the committee chair's report on the meeting of the Coordinating Board of the IFLA Division of Collections and Services, to which the committee reports.

The group also held preliminary discussion on the merits of the division holding an open session for the benefit of the general membership of its constituent sections, for the purpose of deepening their acquaintance with various concerns and projects throughout the division and stimulating collaboration on matters of common interest between the sections.

During the Standing Committee's second meeting, the principal topics of discussion were the current projects of the section, which include a study of serial price differentiation, a bibliography of exchange publications, and a survey of current practices for the exchange of publications which will be developed through analysis of a special questionnaire to be distributed to selected IFLA member institutions. The committee reviewed and approved a draft informational leaflet, prepared by former committee chair David Bradbury, British Library. It also reviewed agenda items and possible topics for papers to be presented at the open sessions at the forthcoming Paris and Stockholm conferences. The meeting concluded with a discussion of the details for a special workshop on repository libraries, to be held during the 1989 Paris conference.

—Peter H. Bridge

ection on Serial Publications

The Standing Committee of the Section on Serial Publications met twice during the conference under the chairmanship of Mary Price, Library of Congress, United States. The agenda items for these two meetings included: presentation of the financial report by the secretary, John

Byford, British Library, U.K.; review and discussion of a draft brochure which describes the activities and work of the section; suggestions for the section's 1989 and 1990 programs in Paris and Stockholm; and, endorsement of a proposal by the section's Working Group on Newspapers to be reconstituted as a round table.

Progress reports on the section's various projects were also presented. Jean Whiffen, University of Victoria, British Columbia, Canada, reported that problems with the transfer of project funds resulted in unanticipated delays in the preparation of the *International Directory of Serial Experts*. Now that the project money is available, it is anticipated that the directory can be published sometime in 1989. Judith Szilvassy, National Library of Hungary, agreed to coordinate a project to prepare a manual titled *Basic Serials Management*, which will specifically address the needs of developing countries in this area. She plans to have a detailed outline of this manual ready by the 1989 conference. Marjorie Bloss, OCLC, United States, agreed to undertake a project, *Library Identifiers in Union Catalogues*, and work is proceeding on a survey to gather data for the report.

The OSIRIS Project (Online Serials Information, Registration and Inquiry System) involves a microcomputer-based system for the production of MARC records for serials according to the conventions of the International Serials Data System (ISDS). The section is cooperating with the ISDS International Centre and the Computing Applications and Service Company of Budapest on this project.

Two projects of the Working Group on Newspapers have been completed: *Survey of National Newspaper Collections*, and *The Conservation of Newspapers*. The results of these studies will be used by the working group in conjunction with other activities it will be undertaking in the future. The *International Guidelines for the Cataloguing of Newspapers* is undergoing one last review by the standing committee, and publication by IFLA's UBCIM office is expected in 1989.

The section convened a program meeting on the theme, "The Impact of New Technologies on Serial Publications; or, Andrew Osborn Revisited." The first of three presentations was by David Toll, National Library of Australia, titled, "Selection and Acquisition of Serials: The Impact of New Technology." He noted that technological developments and an increasing range of serial automation options are providing libraries of all sizes with an opportunity to manage more efficiently the procedures associated with the selection and acquisition of serials. In addition to automating many labor-intensive acquisition procedures, the management information derived from automated serials systems is providing useful information for collection development purposes.

Philip Bryant, United Kingdom, presented the second paper, "What Is That Hyphen Doing Anyway? Cataloguing and Classification of Serials and the New Technologies." Noting that Andrew Osborn in his 1941 article, "Crisis in Cataloging," favored the "pragmatic" theory of cataloging, Mr. Bryant suggested that the complexity and lack of clarity in serial cataloging data imposes burdens on both the librarian and the user. He further noted that new technology itself will not solve the problem and could even make life more complicated. He advocated a more integrated approach to processing the various categories of material received by libraries. Too great an emphasis is placed on the difference between serials and books, although the dynamic nature of the former causes problems. He also suggested that there could be greater liaison with publishers to help resolve some of the difficulties caused by too many changes of title and numbering systems. He noted that scientific journal publishing appears likely to break the constraints of the hard copy format within the next decade.

The third paper was by Christel McClare, National Library of New Zealand, who presented the topic, "Reference and Public Service Activities for Serial Publications at the National Library of New Zealand." The application of new technologies to reference services offered by the National Library of New Zealand has resulted in improved access for the public to National Library collections. The new technologies used are: INNZ, NEWZINDEX, and FIND databases on Kiwinet, the National Library's database hosting service; an in-house electronic message-switching system; and an automatic conveyor system (the telelift) for delivery of requested items to reading rooms.

—Mary Price

Closing Session

The closing session of the IFLA General Conference took place at the University of New South Wales on September 3. President Hans-Peter Geh opened the session observing that the new conference structure, adopted at last year's conference but put into practice for the first time in Sydney, had proved to be valid, and the value of holding workshops had been shown. He also announced that a fifth official language—Spanish—will be added to IFLA's current official languages of English, French, German, and Russian.

Joseph Price, chair of the Professional Board, presented the evaluation of the conference and the resolutions which had been received, but not yet reviewed, by the Professional Board. Mr. Price offered thanks to those who worked to make the conference a success: both the Australian host organizers, the governments of Australia and the state of New South Wales, and the many

participating members. Some 1,650 registrants representing 59 countries were recorded at the conference and more than 100 papers were presented during the course of 65 meetings and workshops. Of the three new types of programs presented during the conference, the system for the distribution of contributed papers was deemed successful; the workshop format was evaluated as primarily a success; but the poster sessions were thought to need further reworking.

William Koops, jury chairman of the Martinus Nijhoff Study Grant, reported that the grants, which had been awarded over the ten-year period 1978–87, have been extended for another three years, with a single grant to be awarded each year. This year's winner, selected from 18 candidates, was Cheryl Victoria Robinson, a specialist in children's and young adult services presently on the faculty of the University of the West Indies.

Marc Chauveinc, vice president of the Steering Committee of the 1989 Paris conference, issued an invitation to attend the forthcoming conference. The theme of the 1989 conference will deal with the economic aspect of libraries and librarianship. In keeping with IFLA custom, Lars-Erik Sanner of the Stockholm University Library issued a similar invitation for the 1990 IFLA conference to be held in Stockholm. The theme of the Stockholm conference will be, "Libraries: Information for Knowledge."

A grant of up to $48,000 (U.S. dollars) has been presented to IFLA by the H.W. Wilson Foundation to be used to transport the translations group to and from future IFLA conferences over the next decade. Robert Wedgeworth, Columbia University, United States, presented the first check in the amount of $6,000 (U.S. dollars), to transport the group to Paris in 1989.

Final words of thanks were offered by Barrie Mitcheson, chair of the Organising Committee, and Dr. Geh offered his thanks and congratulations for a successful and well-organized conference. The president presented the IFLA Medal to Mr. Mitcheson and gifts to the members of the Organising Committee.

Dr. Geh also presented the IFLA Medal to William J. Welsh, Deputy Librarian of Congress and retiring chair of the Conference of Directors of National Libraries, in recognition of his forthcoming retirement and his extraordinary contributions to librarianship. Dr. Geh cited Mr. Welsh's instrumental role in launching IFLA's core programs and lauded his great contributions in improving international relationships through librarianship. Mr. Welsh replied with a brief speech in which he recalled the many stimulating experiences and fine friendships he had gained through IFLA.

–Peter H. Bridge

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